

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Previously Presented) A security document, in particular a value-bearing paper, comprising at least one security element provided on a surface of the substrate forming the security document,

wherein to form the security element at least one surface region of the security document is of a configuration and size specific to the respective security document in such a way and is spatially displaced, for example recessed or raised, at least relative to the surface of the substrate which is adjacent or surrounding the surface region, and/or is of such a different roughness, hardness, elasticity, slipperiness, thermal conductivity and/or stickiness, that the configuration and size of the surface region can be established as a consequence of the differing surface nature thereof by means of the human sense of touch, and

wherein the at least one surface region is formed by a film portion which is of a corresponding configuration and which is applied to the substrate and which comprises a material different from the substrate and which has openings through which the surface of the substrate can be felt.

2. (Previously Presented) A security document as set forth in claim 1, wherein the substrate and the film portion are formed by different kinds of film, which markedly differ in properties which can be detected by means of the human sense of touch.

3. (Previously Presented) A security document as set forth in claim 1, wherein the substrate and the film portion are formed by papers with respective markedly different surface properties which can be determined by means of the human sense of touch.

4. (Previously Presented) A security document as set forth in claim 3, wherein the different surface properties of the papers are formed by corresponding printing.

5. (Previously Presented) A security document as set forth in claim 3, wherein the different surface properties of the papers are produced by region-wise mechanical processing of the papers, in particular by roughening, embossing and/or glazing.

6. (Previously Presented) A security document as set forth in claim 1, wherein the security document has a plurality of surface regions which have different surface properties in relation to the substrate surface.

7. (Previously Presented) A security document as set forth in claim 6, wherein the surface regions involve a differing configuration, size and/or surface nature.

8. (Previously Presented) A security document as set forth in claim 1, wherein the film is three-dimensionally embossed at least in region-wise manner for producing a particular structure.

9. (Previously Presented) A security document as set forth in claim 1, wherein the film is provided in region-wise manner with a coating, for example printing thereon, which produces a special surface nature which can be felt.

10. (Currently Amended) A security document, in particular a value-bearing paper, comprising at least one window-like opening in the substrate of the security document, said opening forming at least part of a security element, wherein the window-like opening is of a configuration and size specific to the respective security document and is so adapted that the configuration and size of the opening can be determined by means of the human sense of touch, and wherein the opening is covered by a film fixed on a surface of the substrate, wherein the film has a surface nature which is markedly different from the surface nature of the substrate in a manner which can be determined by means of the human sense of touch, insofar as it is provided that

a) the film projects beyond the opening of the substrate and in its projecting region is provided with at least one aperture through which the surface of the substrate can be felt,

and/or

b) the film is three-dimensionally embossed at least region-wise to produce a particular structure,

and/or

c) ~~the film is provided in a region-wise manner with a coating, for example printing thereon, which produces a special surface nature which can be felt,~~

~~and/or~~

d) c) the film is provided at least in its region covering the opening with a perforation in the form of a pattern which can be easily felt.

11. (Previously Presented) A security document as set forth in claim 10, wherein the security document has a plurality of window-like openings which can be felt in respect of size and configuration by means of the human sense of touch.

12. (Previously Presented) A security document as set forth in claim 11, wherein the openings are of differing configuration and/or size and/or are covered with a film having different properties.

13. (Previously Presented) A security document as set forth in claim 1, wherein the edge of the at least one surface region is in the configuration of a simple geometrical figure.

14. (Previously Presented) A security document as set forth in claim 13, wherein the at least one surface region is in the form of an elongate rectangle, in particular of a strip shape.

15. (Previously Presented) A security document as set forth in claim 1, wherein at least in the at least one surface region the substrate is deformed by embossing to provide forwardly curved portions on a surface of the substrate and corresponding recesses on the other surface of the substrate.

16. (Previously Presented) A security document as set forth in claim 1, wherein the substrate has at least one surface region of a surface nature which differs in relation to the surrounding surface of the substrate, and at least one opening.

17. (Previously Presented) A security document as set forth in claim 1, wherein it is provided with at least one further security element which can be checked optically or by machine.

18. (Previously Presented) A security document as set forth in claim 17, wherein the security element which can be checked optically or by machine overlaps at least region-wise with the at least one surface region of the surface nature which differs in relation to the surrounding surface of the substrate and/or the opening.

19. (Previously Presented) A security document as set forth in claim 17, wherein the security element which can be optically checked is formed by a pattern comprising diffraction structures, for example a hologram, and/or a region-wise metallization.